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COUNTRY Hungary

SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Soviet and Hungarian Troops in Koermend and Szombathely

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25X1X EVALUATION [REDACTED] 25X1C

PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED]

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PREPARED 7 December 1951

REFERENCES

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REMARKS

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SOURCE [REDACTED]

1. On 26 and 27 October 1951, only about 45 Soviet soldiers, who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank insignia, were observed in the park of Battyany Castle, Koermend (P 48/C-76). By 28 October, an undetermined number of troops with tanks, artillery pieces and mortars arrived at the castle. Mortars and 14 artillery pieces, with rubber tires and barrels of about 4 meters' length, were being lined up. [REDACTED] tanks being moved into wooden shelters. The billeting space in the castle area had been increased by several low wooden barracks buildings which had been removed from the Nadasd Woods (Y 3/C 75) in August.

2. About 35 Soviet soldiers with black service color were quartered in the Kardos Inn at 36 Deak Ferenc Street, Koermend. Some of them were daily detailed for sentry duty at the radio station north of Koermend. The Korona Inn and the building of the district court were still vacant and sealed prior to 25 October 1951. The New Barracks, previously the Infantry Barracks, was to be razed except for one main building and the subsidiary buildings. The section south of the main gate was being demolished.

3. Hungarian police who had been quartered in the Gaspar Inn were transferred to the former barracks installation of the finance police at the intersection of Deak Ferenc Street (east side) and Bercsenyi Street (south side). The Gaspar Inn was used by the draft board for the examination of draftees. The Hungarian AVH office moved to the Sipos Villa, in the civil servants' settlement opposite the New Barracks.

4. Prior to 27 October 1951, only a few Soviet soldiers were seen in Szombathely (P 48/C 78). [REDACTED] no military motor vehicles on 26 and 27 October. Soviet troops had not yet returned from the troop training grounds.

5. A sentry wearing red-bordered black epaulets stood in front of the main gate of the Cavalry Barracks. Sixteen trucks were seen in the billeting area. The barracks installation on Paragvar Street was

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being renovated by between 40 and 50 civilian workers. There were no sentries. About 65 Soviet soldiers were engaged in reconditioning wooden barracks buildings and garages in the Herics and Ezredevi Parks, which were guarded by sentries with red-bordered black epaulets. [REDACTED] did not see any weapons or motor vehicles. Two majors and 2 captains, who left the Old Gendarmerie Barracks on Deak Ferenc Street, wore red service color. No sentries were seen.

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\* [REDACTED] Comment. The observations in Koermend and Szombathely were made prior to the return of units from the troop training grounds in Hajmasker which, according to a previous report, was scheduled in early November 1951. It is therefore plausible that only a few Soviet troops, or none at all, were seen in the Soviet-occupied or requisitioned barracks installations and office buildings, which were mentioned in the present report.

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